



Clay County 4-H

Clay County Extension Office (402-762-3644)

clay.unl.edu

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNLClayCounty>

February 2024

4-H Enrollment:

2024 Enrollment is open!

v2.4honline.com

You will use the same username and password as before. Work through and enroll in 2023-2024 4-H year. At this point the program will have you update youth personal information. Be sure to complete the page of authorizations. The health form remains optional. Update club and projects. The final step will be to click on "submit enrollment." From this point it will show up at the Extension Office and we will "accept it".

If you are new to 4-H, begin with the website v2.4honline.com. You will then create a family profile, and proceed to enroll from there. Please save your password, as you will use this in the future to log in as well.

**** Please make sure to include T-Shirt Size!**

Clay County 4-H Remind 101:

If you would like to receive reminder messages about Clay County 4-H please sign-up for these messages. Text @4hclayco to the number 81010. We have plans to use this more this coming year! Make sure you get signed-up!

Special Garden Project:

The Special Garden Project gives 4-H members the opportunity to try growing a new and unusual vegetable or flower each year. The project allows experienced 4-H gardeners to grow something fun and exciting while letting those who are newer to gardening get their feet wet in the horticulture project area with a guided project experience. The Special Garden project this year is Princess India Nasturtium. Please let the Extension office know if you would like seeds.

Special Agronomy Project:

The Nebraska Extension Special Agronomy Project gives 4-H members an opportunity to experience a crop that is grown, was grown or has the potential to be grown in Nebraska. Youth participate by receiving seed and resources to grow the crop, research traits of the crop and determine the viability of that crop in the part of the state they live. The project allows 4-H members interested in agronomy to grow something fun, new, and different. This year, we honor a crop grown in the panhandle!

In the fourth year of the special agronomy project, youth will explore **Sugar beets!** Sugar beets are a major contributor to the U.S. sweetener industry and occur in a vast range of different food products. Be eligible to enter an exhibit at both the County and/or State Fair in the agronomy project area.

Enroll for the 2024 Special Agronomy Project through 4-H Online by enrolling in the Agronomy project.

Let the Extension office know if you would like seeds!

2024 Fair theme:

“Ridin’, Ropin’, Rockin’, & Rollin’ at the Clay County Fair.”

February is Nebraska 4-H Month:

February is Nebraska 4-H Month and we want to Celebrate our Awesome local programs! We have several local and state opportunities to celebrate our organization.

February 1 – Spirit Day! Wear your 4-H Shirt to school. Post pictures on Social Media showing off your Green spirit!!!!

February 8 – Volunteer Appreciate Day. Our program has so many volunteers that make our program successful and thriving.

- Write a Thank you note to local 4-H volunteers/leaders.
- As a club/family, create gifts to hand out to local volunteers.
- Send them a quick text or email to let them know you appreciate their time.

February 15 – 4-H Supporter Appreciation Day

- Take time to thank a local business that supports 4-H (Auction, Achievement program)

February 22 – Give Back Day

- Volunteer in your community (Hands to larger service)
 - Bingo at the local nursing home
 - Make Cards/goodies for local shut-ins in your community.
 - Donate pet food/toys to the local pet shelter

February 29 – Leap into 4-H – Enroll in 4-H

- Talk to a new family and help them with the enrollment process.

We also encourage you to share your love for 4-H on Social Media.

We appreciate all our 4-H families that make our program so rewarding to us!!

Go Big Green!!

Clover Kids Workshops:

We will be holding our Clover kid workshops this spring. These will take place at the fairgrounds at 5:30pm on the following days:

February 19th

March 25th

April 22nd

Call the Extension office to sign up!

More information about these workshops will be coming out soon!

Hippology Academy is back:

It's back! The 2024 Hippology Academy kicks off on February 17. Topics for this year include toxic plants of the northeast, horse evaluation, feeding myths, soil testing and usage, identifying feeds, and fencing. Content for each topic includes practice tests, slides, and digital learning stations in addition to twice weekly lectures.

There are three enrollment levels to choose from:

1. Bronze: All content listed above, accessible until August 31, 2024.
2. Silver: Everything included in Bronze, plus can ask teacher questions, participate in discussion board, and have access to course material until November 31, 2024.
3. Gold: Everything included in Silver, plus opportunity to participate in live virtual office hours with instructor (Thursday evenings) and access to course material until December 31, 2024.

Learn more and register here: <https://catalog.extension.org/?category=6&keyword=hippology&cond=advand&search=Search>

4-H Rabbit show in Lincoln:

The 4-H Spring Rabbit Show will be held on Saturday, March 16, 9 a.m. at Sandhills Global Event Center, 84th & Havelock – South Hall. Open to all youth ages 8–18, with a Clover Kids class for youth ages 5–7. This is a great opportunity for youth to talk to other 4-H'ers about where to purchase a good rabbit for a 4-H project, and to learn and practice showmanship. Rabbit Quiz and Breed Identification contests are free for youth to enter!

More information can be found here:

<https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/rabbit/rabbit-show-spring-24.pdf>

Nebraska Classic Livestock Judging Contest:

The contest will be held in Kearney on Saturday, Feb. 17th with the entry deadline being Feb. 5th. All details and entry information can be found using this link:

<https://nebraskaclassic.org/winter-edition/judging-contest.php>.

We look forward to another great contest this year with an outstanding dinner and set of awards to follow.

CWF Strawberry sales:

We have some CWF youth that are selling Strawberries as a fundraiser for a trip coming up in 2025! If you are interested in purchasing any strawberries, but are not sure who is selling, call the office and we can get you in touch with one of the youth selling!

Orders are due February 9th.

Leadership In Action 4-H Club:

Leadership In Action (LIA) is for youth aged 13 and over. The club allows youth to explore Leadership skills. The Club meets once a month and is open to anyone. Contact the Extension office if you are interested in joining. We will start meeting in February.

Upcoming Events:

February

Nebraska 4-H Month- ALL MONTH!

9th- CWF Strawberry sales orders are due!

19th- Clover kid workshop at Fairgrounds
@ 5:30pm